

## Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

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R 281308Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6845

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 3264

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PINT XF IS

SUBJ: REACTION TO LABOR ALIGNMENT DEBATE ON GOI

APPROACH TO PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: TEL AVIV 3227

1. SUMMARY. IN EDITORIAL COMMENTS MAY 28 ON  
ALIGNMENT DEBATES ON GOI APPROACH TO PEACE  
NEGOTIATIONS, DAVAR AND AL HAMISHMAR AGREED  
THAT DEBATES SHOWED GENERAL CONSENSUS THAT  
CURRENT POLITICAL STALEMATE CANNOT CONTINUE,  
AND THAT INTERIM SETTLEMENT APPROACH HAS  
GREATER SUPPORT THAN OVERALL SETTLEMENT.  
YEDIOT BELIEVED THAT RABIN EMERGED STRONGER  
FROM THE DEBATES THAN WHEN HE ENTERED THEM, AND  
DAVAR CONCLUDED THAT DEBATES REFLECT BROAD  
POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR RABIN. IN CLARIFYING  
HIS VIEWS TO MAPAM LEADERS, RABIN REPORTDELY  
SAID HE DID NOT REGARD PRESENT SEPARATION LINE  
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WITH SYRIA AS FINAL BORDER, BUT FOR SECURITY

REASONS ISRAEL WILL NOT DESCEND FROM GOLAN HEIGHTS.

2. DAVAR (LABOR) BELIEVED THAT DEBATE SHOWED LARGE MAJORITY OF ELECTED MEMBERS OF PARTIES COMPOSING ALIGNMENT (LABOR AND MAPAM) SUPPORT GOVERNMENT'S LINE. DESPITE " DIFFERENCES IN CONCEPTION," AN ANALYSIS OF MAJORITY OF VIEWS EXPRESSED SHOWS FAIRLY LARGE MEASURE OF AGREEMENT. " THE ACCEPTED TENDENCY", ACCORDING TO DAVAR'S EDITORIAL, " IS TO GET ON WITH POLITICAL SETTLEMENTS," AND NOT PERPETUATE STALEMATE OR STATUS QUO.

3. ALTHOUGH PM, AS WELL AS SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES, REGARDED INTERIM SETTLEMENTS AS MORE REALISTIC APPROACH TO PEACE THAN OVERALL SETTLEMENT, DAVAR NOTED THAT " THEY TOO EMPHASIZED THAT SUCH INTERIM SETTLEMENTS OUGHT NOT BE REGARDED AS 'THE LAST WORD' BUT THE OPENING OF A PROCESS FOR THE CHANGE OF THE PATTERN OF RELATIONS WITH OUR NEIGHBORS."

4. DAVAR CONCLUDED THAT " WHEN HE GETS DOWN TO PREPARING HIS PROPOSALS, MR. RABIN CAN RELY ON BROAD AGREEMENT FOR THE EXPLORATION OF THE POLITICAL ROAD, AS IT WAS REFLECTED IN THE DEBATES OF THE ALIGNMENT."

5. IN SIGNED EDITORIAL, YEDIOT'S (INDEPENDANT) HAWKISH EDITOR, DR. HERZL ROSENBLUM, SAW THE ALIGNMENT DEBATE AS CONFRONTATION " NOT BETWEEN RABIN AND A GROUP OF MORE HAWKISH' COLLEAGUES, BUT BETWEEN RABIN AND GROUP LESS 'HAWKISH' THAN HIMSELF." THE DEBATE THUS WAS A VICTORY FOR COLLEAGUES " MORE HAWKISH" THAN RABIN. ACCORDING TO THE YEDIOT, THEIR SUCCESS IS NOT FINAL, BECAUSE THE " CONCESSIONISTS" IN THE LABOR PARTY ARE ALMOST AS POWERFUL AS RABIN, AND THEY HAVE NOT YET ACQUIESCED IN THEIR FATE WITHIN THEIR OWN CAMP." HOWEVER, " EVEN THEIR 'AD-HOC' UNCLASSIFIED

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RESTRAINT TENDS TO ADD EXTRA WEIGHT TO RABIN ON THE EVE OF HIS DEPARTURE FOR WASHINGTON."

6. RABIN, SAID YEDIOT, DID NOT DEVIATE FROM THE LINE OF THE ALIGNMENT AS OUTLINED IN ITS "ORAL DOCTRINE" (UNWRITTEN PART OF ALIGNMENT 1969 ELECTION PLATFORM.) "WITH ALL HIS DESIRE FOR PEACE, RABIN REFUSED TO RETURN TO THE

BORDER OF JUNE 4, 1967..."

7. DESPITE CERTAIN DEFICIENCIES IN RABIN'S SPEECH (SUCH AS LACK OF DEMAND FOR DIRECT TALKS), YEDIOT CONCLUDED, "...IT IS CLEAR TO US THAT RABIN CAME OUT OF THE SESSION... STRONGER THAN HE WAS WHEN HE CAME IN."

8. ALHAMISHMAR'S (MAPAM) EDITORIAL ADMITTED THAT DEBATE DID NOT REACH ANY CONCLUSION. WHILE THERE WERE NO UNANIMITY OF VIEWS, THERE WAS, ON SOME POINTS, EITHER GENERAL AGREEMENT OR SUPPORT BY MAJORITY OF PARTICIPANTS. " ALMOST EVERYONE AGREED THAT THERE IS NO ROOM FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE PLITICAL STALEMATE, AND THAT IT WAS NECESSARY TO SEEK A DIALOGUE WITH THE US, WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF REACHING AN AGREEMENT AS REGARDS THE FINAL OBJECTIVES OF A SETTLEMENT WITH THE ARAB STAES....FROM THE PRESENT CONSTELLATION IT SEEMS THAT AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT HAS GREATER CHANCES THAN AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT...AND THAT THERE IS A NEED TO WORK OUT HERE AND NOW THE MAIN PRINCIPLES OF AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT WHICH ISRAEL WOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT..."

9. DESPITE THE SUPPORT OF THE LIKUD FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S STAND FOLLOWING THE LAST KISSINGER TALKS, AL HAMISHMAR STATED THAT THE DEBATE SHOWED THAT " IT WAS CLEAR THAT A WIDE GAP EXISTS BETWEEN THE STAND OF THE ALIGNMENT AND THAT OF LIUD." TO SUPPORT THIS OBSERVATION, AL HAMISHMAR POINTED TO THE PM'S HINTS OF FLEXIBILITY  
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CONCERNING SHARM EL SHEIKH AND THE GOLAN HEIGHTS, AS WELL AS THE CLARIFICATION OF HIS VIEWS ON THE EASTERN BORDER.

10. THE EDITORIAL SAID THAT WHILE " QUITE A NUMBER" OF SPEAKERS SHARED LITTLE WILLINGNESS FOR CONCESSIONS OR COMPROMISE, THER EXISTS WITHIN THE ALIGNMENT " A SERIOUS FORCE THAT IS CLOSE TO THE MAPAM STAND AND WHICH NOW FINDS A COMMON LANGUAGE ON QUESTIONS OF PEACE AND SECURITY."

11. ACCORDING TO A PRESS REPORT (DAVAR), IN A MEETING WITH MAPAM LEADERS FOLLOWING THE DEBATE, THE PRIMIN, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS

REGARDING THE " PRACTICAL APPLICATION" OF HIS  
VIEWS, REITERATED THE POINTS MADE IN HIS  
MAY 26 SPEECH. HOWEVER CLARIFIED THAT HE DID NOT  
REGARD THE PRESENT SEPARATION LINE ON THE GOLAN  
AS THE FINAL BORDER WITH SYRIA, ALTHOUGH  
FOR SECURITY REASONS ISRAEL WILL NOT DESEND  
FROM THE GOLAN HEIGHTS.  
VELIOTES

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